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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/672,228	09/26/2003	Michael Bergelson	P-10732.00	2878
27581	7590	07/27/2005	EXAMINER	
MEDTRONIC, INC. 710 MEDTRONIC PARKWAY NE MS-LC340 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55432-5604			GREENE, DANA D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3762	

DATE MAILED: 07/27/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/672,228

Applicant(s)

BERGELSON ET AL.

Examiner

Dana D. Greene

Art Unit

3762

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 May 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 9-26-03 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-25 remain rejected under the same references disclosed in the Office Action mailed April 18, 2005. The Examiner has given full consideration to the Applicant's response filed on May 16, 2005. However, Applicant's arguments are not persuasive and do not overcome the original rejection.

Examiner has alleged a prima facie case of anticipation with respect to claims 1-17 and 22-25. Examiner cites Reinhold (US 4,531,527, hereinafter "Reinhold") and Ryan (US 5,350,411, hereinafter "Ryan"). Claims 18-21 are not patentable over Reinhold in view of Sholder (US 5,899,928, hereinafter "Sholder").

Examiner has cited areas of Reinhold that do teach transmitted a plurality of EGM signals, receiving a signal from an IMD, modulating EGM signals from the IMD and transmitting the modulated signal. The rejection is supported and will stand.

Examiner has pointed to the specific sites in Reinhold and Sholder that they be combined in the manner suggested. With this suggestion, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Reinhold with the considered oscillator circuit taught in Sholder for the purpose of supplying command signals.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-17 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Reinhold. Reinhold is considered to disclose:

a method of transmitting a plurality of electrogram (EGM) signals associated with an implantable medical device (IMD) via a telephone line (see col. 2, ln. 45-61, Reinhold). The disclosed approach is considered to anticipate the claimed method of transmitting because both achieve real time data processing and transmitting of processed signals over a communication channel such as a telephone;

the method comprising the steps of receiving first and second EGM signals from the IMD (see col. 4, ln. 30-40, Reinhold). The disclosed monitor unit is used in a system that is considered to anticipate the claimed steps because both obtain EGM signals from the patient monitor unit;

frequency modulating the first and second EGM signals and transmitting the frequency modulated first and second EGM signals onto the telephone line (see col. 15, ln. 14-21, Reinhold). The disclosed operation of transmitting signals by telephone is considered to disclose the claimed method of transmitting the frequency modulated signals because both methods use frequency modulated EGM data that is transmitted from the patient monitor to be displayed at a remote monitoring station in response to commands provided by a remote (DTMF) signal from a receiving station.

With reference to claims 2-5, Reinhold is considered to disclose a method of selectively transmitting the frequency modulated sense signals onto the telephone line (see col. 15, ln. 15-20, Reinhold). The disclosed method of producing the frequency

modulated signal is considered to disclose the claimed method because both make use of telephone lines for transmitting.

Referring to claims 6-8, Reinhold is considered to disclose the method of receiving one or more sense signals and one or more stimulus signals, each sense signal representative of the sensed physiological activity (see col. 20, ln. 45-65, Reinhold).

Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Reinhold. Reinhold is considered to disclose:

an implant monitor for monitoring an implantable medical device (IMD) (see abstract Reinhold). The claimed cardiac monitoring system is considered to anticipate the claimed implant monitor because both transmit a plurality of electrogram signals associated with an implantable medical device via a telephone line;

an RF receiver adapted to receive an RF signal transmitted from the IMD, the RF signal modulated with at least first and second electrogram (EGM) data, the RF receiver configured to demodulate the first and second EGM data from the received RF signal; a frequency modulation circuit and an amplifier circuit coupled to receive the first and second frequency modulated EGM data signals (see col. 20, ln. 51-68, Reinhold). The disclosed receiver is considered to anticipate the claimed device because both operate as a component of receiver decoder.

Referring to claims 10-13, Reinhold is considered to disclose a marker encoder coupled to receive the demodulated physiological activity data (see col. 7, ln. 50-55, Reinhold). The disclosed microprocessor device is considered to anticipate the claimed

Art Unit: 3762

device because both are capable of formatting the encoded channel digital values so that the sensed and stimulated physiological events are distinguished.

With reference to claims 14-17, Reinhold is considered to disclose the monitor as described above but further comprising the marker encoder coupled to receive the decoded physiological activity data and the decoded physiological stimulus configured to supply an encoded marker signal (see col. 15, ln. 15-27, Reinhold).

Referring to claim 22, Reinhold is considered to disclose an amplifier circuit adapted to couple to a telephone line, to thereby supply the composite frequency modulated signal thereto (see col. 15, ln. 14-26, Reinhold). The disclose unit is considered to anticipate the claimed device because both are capable of being adapted to couple to telephone lines.

Claims 23-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ryan. Ryan is considered to disclose the method of frequency modulating digital data transmitted from an implantable medical device comprising the steps of sampling, initializing, incrementing, and generating a pulse (see col. 4, ln. 5-20, Ryan).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Art Unit: 3762

Claims 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Reinhold in view of Sholder. Reinhold is considered to disclose the claimed invention as discussed above, under the anticipatory rejection, except for the claimed oscillator. However, Sholder is considered to disclose the claimed oscillator circuit (see col. 19, ln. 25-30, Sholder). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Reinhold with the considered oscillator circuit taught in Sholder for the purpose of supplying command signals.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dana D. Greene whose telephone number is (571) 272-7138. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-6.

Art Unit: 3762

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Angela Sykes can be reached on (571) 272-4955. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 86 6-217-9197 (toll-free).



Dana D. Greene



George Manuel
Primary Examiner